

I am feeling more and more that the government is being taken over and controlled by big business. Where are the protections against this? Consolidation of the media industry is yet another example of this trend and Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of this consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, the motive becomes almost exclusively "for profit" ones. They are clearly catering to the candidate which they feel will give them the best bottom line deal. We tend to get more of what's good for the profit line and less of what we need for our democracy.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

Thank you.

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